

LOOK at US!



Golden Bear Milestones Dinner 2024

Our 2024 Golden Bear Milestones Dinner is scheduled for 5 p.m., April 15, 2024, in the Vestal High School cafeteria. We will be recognizing those employees with 25 or more years of service to the District, as well as our colleagues who are retiring.

Congratulations to the following staff members celebrating...

40 Years of Service: Elizabeth (BJ) Ellis (VHS Attendance Typist)

35 Years of Service: Jacqui Miller (VMS Science Teacher)

30 Years of Service: Lori Cherevko (GLE Grade 2 Teacher)
Annette Miller (VHE Teacher Aide) • Suzanne Place (VMS Math Teacher)

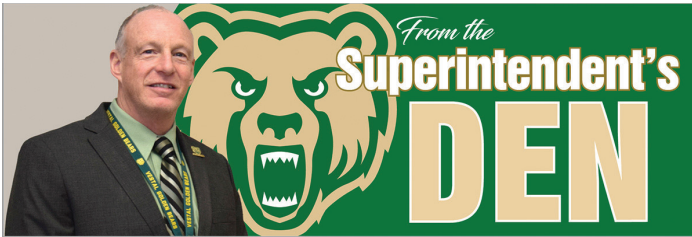
25 Years of Service: Mary Glazer - 26 Years! (GLE Grade 2 Teacher)
Ryan Hayes (VHS Phys-Ed Teacher) • Jacquelin Miner (THE Grade 2 Teacher)
Teresa Pavadona (VMS Spanish Teacher) • Lori Shank (THE Grade 2 Teacher)
Lisa Vallequette (CAE Teacher Aide) • Cathy Willis (VHE Principal)
Kelly Waterman (THE Kindergarten Teacher)

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**Free presentation
"Understanding
Apps & Parental
Controls"**

**6:30 p.m.
March 27
African Road
Auditorium**



Cover photo: We want to wish a huge congratulations to our District's newest New York State Master Teachers! They are

Molly Russell, CAE Grade 4
Heather Bogart, ARE Grade 3
Sara Cook, ARE Grade 4

Krista Little, VHE Resource Room

As we pass the first day of Spring (and wait for the weather to catch up!), I am uplifted by the energy in our schools this time of year...

I am humbled by all you do to support our students in their many endeavors at this point in the school year. It has been my honor to visit and engage with so many groups. I was happy to join ARE PTA and VMS PTO for meetings last month and recognize employee anniversaries at African Road and Vestal Hills. I've attended faculty meetings at Clayton Avenue and Tioga Hills to provide Capital Project Updates. I enjoyed "High School Musical," the Prism Concert and Talent Fest at the high school. I applauded our Odyssey of the Mind teams at the regional tournament. I joined our technology teachers on Conference Day for work on inquiry-based learning. I visited Vestal Hills for their Cultural Collage, attended District Council meetings, and watched the fun at Glenwood during GSCA's Bingo Night.

I am determined to be accessible to everyone, to listen to your concerns, and to hear you.

My other commitments include representing the District in the community, and to that end, I met regularly with other area Superintendents, and I have met with the Town of Vestal Supervisor and Assessor on numerous occasions. I am pleased to share that our last meeting with Vestal Town Supervisor Sexton was very positive, bringing the District and the Town to a consensus on the active-duty SRO Program in our schools. I am confident that we will be having our four current SROs continue in their roles going forward and, should our budgets align, will be able to add the two additional SROs to our schools at a future date.

The work that you all do, day in and day out, is so impressive, and I am so grateful to be able to support you in all your efforts!

Stay Golden, Vestal!

Superintendent Clifford R. Kasson

In addition, two more of our teachers were selected as NYS Master Teachers last year! Congratulations also to



Kate Barney, ARE Math



Colette O'Donnell,
VHS IB-SL Chemistry



Vestal Middle School
April 26 - 28

Tickets on Sale March 25!



School Board Meetings
Board Conference Room, Admin

6 p.m., Tuesday, April 9, 2024
6 p.m., **MONDAY**, April 22, 2024

Golden Bear Milestones Dinner

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2023-24 Golden Bear Retirees

Jeffrey Ahearn (ADM Superintendent)
Steven Darrah (TRANS Head Mechanic)
Karen Dervay (CAE Teacher Aide)
Denise England (VHE Teacher)
Tammy Harman (TRANS Bus Driver)
Carl Jones, Jr. (FACS Head Groundskeeper)
Monica Kelly-Brunza (THE Art Teacher)
Deborah Maerz (VHE Nurse)
Sean Manning (VHS Custodian)
Annette Mezzadonna (VHS Business Teacher)
Ingrid Peters (VMS Food Service)
Lawrence Potenzino (TRANS Bus Driver)
Gerlinde Repinecz (CAE Head Custodian)
Robert Roe (VHS Custodian)
Susan Scheri (THE Teacher)
Rebecca Schramm (VHS Senior Typist)
Colleen Schultz (VMS Math Teacher)
Scott Smith (VMS Technology Teacher)
Jeannette Tripicco (VMS Typist)
Alan Troidl (VHS Math Teacher)
Connie Van Steenburg (TRANS Head Bus Driver)
Rosanne Van Wie (VHS Science Teacher)

2023-24 Employee Recognitions

Other colleagues celebrating significant service milestones with the District of 10 - 20 years will be celebrated at the building level. Join us in congratulating them!

20 Years

Charlie Arbuiso (VHS Chemistry Teacher)
Julie Arnold (CAE Gr. 3 Teacher)
Kristen Baldwin (THE Reading Teacher)
Danette Berry (VHS Biology Teacher)
Kathleen Borgeson (GLE Gr. 1 Teacher)
Susan Darpino (VHS Health Teacher)
Sharyn Fine (GLE Occupational Therapist)
Roxanna Fitzgerald (VMS Teacher Aide)

Paige Gales (VHS Special Education Teacher)
Patricia Giovannone (VHE Gr. 3 Teacher)
Becky Gorman (CAE Kindergarten Teacher)
Jessica Groves (VHS Social Studies Teacher)
John Howell (THE Gr. 4 Teacher)
Charlene Hull (VHS Teacher Aide)
Keliann Mazikewich (ADM Director of Instruction)
Lillian McKnight (CAE Math Teacher)
Michael Olson (CAE Gr. 2 Teacher)
Amy Panella (CAE/GLE Art Teacher)
Ingrid Peters (ARE/VMS Food Service Helper)
Vita Rice (GLE Teacher Aide)
Bridgit Soriano (GLE Speech Teacher)
Gina Staccone-Rogers (VHS English Teacher)
Kate Stowell (VMS English Teacher)
Bernice Thompson (VHS Special Education Teacher)
Arlynn Valentine (VMS Teacher Aide)
Roseanne Van Wie (VHS Science Teacher)
Aubrey Warneck (VMS Music Teacher)
Heidi Weisbrod (VMS Reading Teacher)
Alyssa Williams (VMS School Counselor)

15 Years

Rebecca Brack (THE Special Education Teacher)
Megan Burczynski (THE Music Teacher)
Jewel Cooke (VHS Senior Typist)
Helen Criscitello (CAE Teacher Aide)
Amanda Donahue (VHE Special Education Teacher)
Jaime Emmons (VMS Science Teacher)
John Hochrun (FACS Maintenance)
Julie Mugavero (VMS/VHS German Teacher)
Katherine Risoli (THE Teacher Aide)
Walter Schlundt, Jr. (TRANSP Bus Driver)
Donna Tartamella (VHE Teacher Aide)
Jennifer Warren (CAE Special Education Teacher)
David Whitman (TRANSP Bus Driver)

10 Years

Ronald Brogdale (TRANSP Bus Driver)
Jamie Carpenter (THE Custodian)
Denelle Chantry (VHS Senior Typist)

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2023-24 Employee Recognitions

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Patrick Clarke (ADM Asst. Superintendent for Instruction)
Raymie Crouse (TRANSP Bus Monitor)
Lisa DeGroat (VMS Teacher Aide)
Christopher Dutkowsky (VHS Physical Education Teacher)
Dijaz Kenjar (VHS Custodian)
Peter Klimas (VHS Physics Teacher)
Alanna Lenga (ARE Physical Education Teacher)
Charles Little (THE) Custodian
Lori Matt (VMS Teacher Aide)
Tracy Murdock (ADM Food Service)
Ronald O'Shea (VHS Special Education Teacher)
Tierney Quinn (VMS Math Teacher)
Mary Rought (VHE Teacher Aide)
Paul Stanton (VHS Social Studies Teacher)
Allison Weisel (VHS Math Teacher)

Staff Photos from February 2024



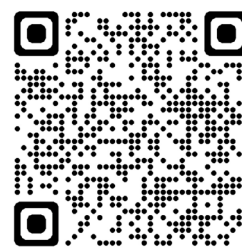
RUNNING OF THE BEARS 5K

SATURDAY
APRIL 13, 2024
Vestal High School



ADULTS - \$25 / STUDENTS (UNDER 18) - \$15
KIDS 1/2 MILE FUN RUN (9 AM) - FREE!

PRE-REGISTER ONLINE BY MARCH 28
TO RECEIVE RACE DAY SHIRT



RUNSIGNUP.COM/RACE/NY/VESTAL/THERUNNINGOFTHEBEARS

ONLINE REGISTRATION ENDS APRIL 10...
RACE DAY REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:30 AM

Left: Clayton Avenue Fourth-Grade Teacher Molly Russell, one of our newest NYS Master Teachers highlighted on the cover, opened her classroom to the Public Information Coordinator and two videographers to help the District produce a fun and educational video highlighting the FOSS Science curriculum.

Thank you, Molly!

To view this video, visit <https://www.vestal.stier.org/Videopresentations.aspx>

or scan the QR code:





VHS Principal Dawn Young made time for a personal photo with a student after the Student Recognition Breakfast on February 15...



SRO Appreciation Day was February 15... SRO Cardarelli posed with some VMS students for a Facebook posting...



Left: Vestal HS SRO Justin Perez gave students a presentation on "Best Practices for Personal Safety" after school on February 26.



Above: Clayton Avenue Kindergarten Teacher Becky Gorman, with a student, helped her class collect hundreds of Valentines from across the country and around the world in February, AND she was selected as WICZ's Teacher of the Week for February 27!



Left: Vestal HS French teacher, and Vestal Hills parent, Beth AitOumessaoud participates in the Vestal Hills Cultural Collage with her son.